

was shot in the abdomen by an Israeli soldier. The child, Ali Abu Aalya, later died.

According to a statement from the United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, issued on December 4, 2020, "A 13 year-old Palestinian boy was shot and killed today in the West Bank in the State of Palestine. In the past two weeks, four other Palestinian children were shot and severely injured in the West Bank"

The UNICEF statement continues, "From January to September this year, according to UN data to date, 232 incidents involving the injury of Palestinian children, some of whom sustained long-term damage. UNICEF urges Israeli authorities to fully respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of all children and refrain from using violence against children, in accordance with international law."

Such a rebuke from UNICEF, calling on Israel, a U.S. ally that receives \$3.8 billion in U.S. taxpayer funded military assistance, to "refrain from using violence against children" should make every Member of Congress and American citizen question whether U.S. military assistance is being used to injure and kill Palestinian children.

I strongly urge the incoming administration of President-Elect Biden to investigate Israel's killing of Ali Abu Aalya, as well as Israel's ongoing pattern of using state sponsored military violence against Palestinian children. Members of Congress and the American people deserve to know whether U.S. taxpayer funding to Israel's Ministry of Defense is being used directly or indirectly to facilitate or enable violence against Palestinian children. Committing human rights abuses with impunity and with U.S. taxpayer aid is intolerable and there must be accountability on the part of the U.S. Government.

Earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 2407, Promoting Human Rights for Palestinian Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation Act. The bill deems the military detention of children a gross human rights violation and prohibits U.S. aid to support, enable, or facilitate such abuse of children. The military detention of children is a systemic practice of the Government of Israel used against Palestinian children as a tactic that violates international humanitarian law in order to maintain a permanent military occupation of Palestinian lands. There are twenty-four courageous colleagues who have joined me as co-sponsors of H.R. 2407 and I am deeply appreciative of their commitment to defending human rights and the rights of children.

"Israel's War on Palestinian Children" was published on December 5th in the Israeli newspaper HAARETZ. In a column by Gideon Levy, the systemic brutality and violence inflicted on Palestinian children by the Government of Israel is described. Mr. Levy writes about his own country, Israel, this way: "What would you think of a regime that allows the shooting of children, that abducts them in their sleep and razes their schools? That's exactly what you must think of the regime here in our country."

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD Mr. Levy's powerfully honest column. I would like Members to read this column and answer Mr. Levy's question: What would you think of a government that allows the shooting of children?

[HAARETZ.com, Dec. 5, 2020]

ISRAEL'S WAR ON PALESTINIAN CHILDREN

(By Gideon Levy)

Last week, we were in the Al-Arroub refugee camp, searching for an open area in which to sit, for fear of the coronavirus. There wasn't one. In a camp in which house touches house, whose alleys are the width of a man and strewn with garbage, there's nowhere to sit outside. One can only dream of a garden or a bench; there isn't even a sidewalk. This is where Basel al-Badawi lives. A year ago, soldiers shot his brother dead, before his eyes, for no reason. Two weeks ago, Basel was snatched from his bed on a cold night and taken, barefoot, for questioning. We sat in his family's cramped home and realized there was no "out" to go to. While we were there, Israeli soldiers blocked the entrance to the camp, as they occasionally do, arbitrarily, and the sense of suffocation only grew.

This is Basel's world and this is his reality. He is 16, a bereaved brother, who was abducted from his bed in the dark of night by soldiers. He has nowhere to go to except for school, which is closed for part of the week due to COVID-19. Basel is free now, more fortunate than certain other children and teenagers. Around 170 of them are currently detained in Israel. Other children are shot by soldiers, wounded and sometimes killed, with no distinction made between children and adults—a Palestinian is a Palestinian—or between a life-threatening situation and a "public disturbance."

On Friday they killed Ali Abu Alia, a 13-year-old boy. It was a lethal shot to the abdomen. No one could remain indifferent to the sight of his innocent face in photographs, and his last picture—in a shroud, his face exposed, his eyes closed, as he was carried to burial in his village. Ali, as he did every week, went with his friends to demonstrate against the wild and violent outposts that sprouted out of the settlement of Kokhav Hashahar, taking over the remaining land of his village, al-Mughayir. There is nothing more just than the struggle of this village, there is nothing more heinous than the use of lethal force against protesters and there is no possibility that shooting Ali in the abdomen could have been justifiable. In Israel, of course, no one showed any interest over the weekend in the death of a child, one more child.

Up until the current school year, around 50 children from the herding community of Ras a-Tin studied at the school in al-Mughayir, the village of the deceased boy. They had to walk about 15 kilometers (9.3 miles) each day, round trip, to attend. This year their parents, with the help of a European Commission aid organization based in Italy, built them a modest, charming school in the village. Israel's Civil Administration is threatening to demolish it, and in the meantime it is harassing the pupils and teachers with surprise visits to check whether the toilets had been, God forbid, connected to a water pipe—in a village that was never connected to the power grid or the water supply. The children of Ras a-Tin must have known Ali, their former classmate, now dead.

The children did not know Malek Issa, of Isawiyah, in East Jerusalem. The 9-year-old boy lost an eye after it was hit by a sponge-tipped bullet fired by an Israeli police officer. On Thursday the Justice Ministry department that examines allegations of police misconduct announced that no one would be charged in the shooting, after 10 months of intensive investigation. It was enough for the policemen involved to claim that stones had been thrown at them, perhaps one of them hit the boy. But no video shows stones

being thrown, nor is there any other evidence of this. Ali's killers can also sleep in peace: No one will prosecute them. All they did was to kill a Palestinian child.

These and many other incidents are taking place during a period that is among the quietest in the West Bank. This is the terror taking place, committed by the state. When we hear of such incidents in vicious dictatorships—children who are snatched from their beds in the middle of the night, one boy who was shot in the eye, another who was shot and killed—it sends shivers down our spine. Shooting at demonstrators? At children? Where do such things happen? Not in some faraway land, but rather just an hour's drive from your home; not in some dark regime, but in the only democracy.

What would you think of a regime that allows the shooting of children, that abducts them in their sleep and razes their schools? That's exactly what you must think of the regime here in our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to a test indicating a positive result for a COVID-19 infection during the most recent district work period, I was unable to travel to the Capitol to vote on December 4, 2020.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 233; YEA on Roll Call No. 234; and NAY on Roll Call No. 235.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BOYD GRANT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a former Fresno State basketball coach, Mr. Boyd Grant, who passed away at the age of 87. He was a father, friend and one of the finest coaches in history.

Boyd, who grew up in the agricultural region of Idaho, had a love for basketball. He played for three seasons at Colorado State University as a guard, after transferring from Snow College in Utah. After college, he returned to his alma mater to serve as the assistant basketball coach, a position he held for nearly 12 years. In 1961, the teams coached by he and legendary Coach Jim Williams, won a conference championship and participated in four NCAA tournaments.

From 1972 to 1974, Mr. Grant served as an assistant coach at the University of Kentucky, before beginning his head coaching career at the College of Southern Idaho, a junior college that he led to a national championship a year later.

Boyd furthered his career by serving as a highly successful head coach at California State University, Fresno. During his tenure, he led the Bulldogs to three Western Athletic Conference championships, three NCAA Tournaments and the 1983 NIT Championship. He was inducted to the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993. He was also inducted into the

Colorado State Athletics Hall of Fame and the National Junior College Basketball Hall of Fame.

Boyd's leadership and coaching strengthened Fresno State's basketball program. The team led the nation in scoring and defense in his first season and were ranked in the top 10 in every one of his nine years as coach. His career at Fresno State included a record of 194–74 over his nine seasons, including the winning the NIT championship in 1983 and earning spots in the NCAA Tournament in 1981, 1982, and in 1984.

He left Fresno State in 1986 and a year later, was named head coach at Colorado State, where he led the Rams to two NCAA tournaments within the four years he was there. After a long and successful career, he retired from coaching in 1991.

Boyd impacted the lives of people who surrounded him, with many of his former students describing him as a father. Boyd lived a great life doing what he loved the most, coaching and playing basketball.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Jean; their son, Kevin, and two daughters Leslie and Lori.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the life of a basketball legend, Mr. Boyd Grant. His teachings and legacy will be remembered for many years to come. We join his family, friends and community in honoring his great life and legacy.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF TIMOTHY BISHOP

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Timothy Bishop, who passed away Tuesday, November 17 at the age of 64.

Timothy was born in May of 1956 in El Paso, Texas to Martha and Graham Bishop. For six years, Mr. Bishop served his country in the United States Navy as an E–5 Pettie Officer First Class. He soon joined the Mississippi Army National Guard and served three years as a Sergeant. After 25 years of dedicated service, Timothy retired from Day-Brite.

In addition to his military and community service, Timothy Bishop was an avid sportsman. He was a competitive shooter, hunter, and a life endowment member of the NRA. Mr. Bishop also served as a Golden Eagle sponsor for youth NRA programs.

Mr. Bishop is preceded in death by his wife, Jonnie Fay Umfress Bishop and his father. He is survived by his mother, Martha Bishop; his son, Jamie; his daughter, Katie; three siblings, and four grandchildren.

It is because of selfless individuals like Mr. Bishop, who dedicate their lives to protecting this great nation that we can boast the liberties we most value. I am grateful for his service and share my deepest condolences with his family and loved ones.

HONORING MIDSHIPMAN 1ST CLASS SYDNEY BARBER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Midshipman First Class Sydney Barber, the first Black female to be selected as Brigade Commander at the United States Naval Academy, the highest leadership position within the student body.

A native of Lake Forest, Illinois, Midshipman Barber graduated from Lake Forest High School in 2017. As a mechanical engineering major at the Naval Academy who has been selected to commission into the U.S. Marine Corps, Midshipman Barber has been on the Superintendent's list. She completed a 7-week internship with the Department of Energy's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where she was instrumental in breakthrough research on bio-electrochemical uses for carbon nanotubes.

Midshipman Barber was named a 2020 Truman Scholar National Finalist, focusing her research on developing legislative strategies to address education disparities in minority communities. She has created a STEM outreach program that leveraged mentoring, literature, and service lessons to benefit middle-school aged girls of color. She also helped create the Midshipman Diversity Team, made up of more than 180 midshipmen, faculty, and alumni, to promote diversity, inclusion and equality within the brigade.

Amid these efforts, Midshipman Barber served as the plebe summer 13th Company Executive Officer and currently serves as the brigade's 1st Regimental Executive Officer. She is the co-President of the Navy Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club and the Secretary for the National Society of Black Engineers Club. She belongs to the gospel choir and the Midshipman Black Studies Club.

A walk-on sprinter and hurdler on the Academy's varsity track and field team, Midshipman Barber currently holds the record for the outdoor 4x400 meter relay.

As Brigade Commander, Midshipman Barber will head the Academy's day-to-day activities and train approximately 4,500 midshipmen. Midshipman Barber will be just the 16th woman selected for this position in the 44 years that women have been attending the Naval Academy.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me today in honoring the achievement of Midshipman First Class Sydney Barber. Her service to our country is deserving of the utmost gratitude. On behalf of my colleagues on the Board of Visitors, I offer her our sincerest congratulations and best wishes for a successful tenure as Brigade Commander.

HONORING RECIPIENTS OF THE INNOVATION AND ADAPTATION RECOGNITION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 7, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, today I honor nine individuals and businesses

from Nebraska's Third District for receiving the Innovation and Adaptation Recognition.

Throughout the 75 counties of the Third District, Nebraskans know our communities grow when individuals step up: helping their neighbors, being involved, and creating opportunities for themselves and others.

In August, I called for nominations as part of a new initiative to acknowledge the contributions of individuals, organizations, and those who are working every day to improve and help their communities in the current environment.

Billy Estes is the Executive Director of the Midwest Theater of Scottsbluff. Midwest Theater's programming, which includes live performances, orchestras, and concerts, makes an important contribution to the cultural and social experiences of Nebraska's panhandle. When the Coronavirus pandemic reached western Nebraska, under the guidance of Mr. Estes, the Midwest Theater partnered with the Legacy of the Plains Museum to create the Skyview Drive-in Movie Theater. As the pandemic progressed, this venture proved so popular they outgrew their location and had to move to larger accommodations. Thanks to the creativity and leadership of Mr. Estes, in spite of the pandemic, the Midwest Theater has continued to thrive throughout 2020.

Grand Central Foods of York is owned by the Warren Thomas family. Mr. Thomas prides himself on his commitment to the York community. In "normal" times, Warren and the Grand Central Team are the first to ask where they can help with a project or how can they partner on events. The selflessness shown by everyone at Grand Central is a testament to the example of the ownership. Within a few days of the pandemic's arrival to York, Warren purchased a second grocery delivery van, and expanded his service to the entire community. Because Warren believes in positive reinforcement, he encouraged his customers to wear a mask while in his store by offering a 5 percent discount on their purchases. He is an active member of many community groups, and his passion and commitment to his community is unmatched.

Alyssa Cochnar of Crete is the leader of Gold Star Martial Arts of Crete and Seward. At 26 years old, she is already a 5th degree black belt, chief instructor, and co-owner of the martial arts facility. When directed health measures forced Gold Star to close in-person training classes, she spearheaded the process of creating online modules for her students to continue their training independently. Before long, she began offering Zoom Classes to provide her students with another safe and flexible option to continue their training and explore expanded experiences to encourage healthy eating habits and socialization while social distancing. I commend her positive attitude and commitment to an enriching educational experience for all her students, regardless of their experience level.

Bryce Jensen is the Director of the World Theatre of Kearney. His adaptability, especially during the pandemic, demonstrates his commitment to his community. Though the organization he operates, the World Theatre, was closed due to the pandemic, his outside of the box thinking inspired him to create, through strategic community collaborations, a World Theatre drive-in. Not only would this ensure the World Theatre could still bring respite to many during these trying times, but it restored a drive-in movie experience to the